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Correspondence

To the Editors of the Classical Journal:

In the second number of the *Classical Journal* appears a review by Professor Sanders of my edition of Livy, books i, xxi, xxii.

I will not complain that Professor Sanders has made but a passing reference to what constitutes a special feature of my edition, the elaborate investigation of the formative elements of Livy's style, the aim of which is, in the words of the preface, "to call attention to those peculiarities of style that have given the prose of Livy its characteristic quality and its enduring fame." This treatment, though undoubtedly defective in many points, is as complete, I hope, as the present state of our knowledge will permit, and has not been anticipated, I think I may say, by any other editor.

But Professor Sanders instead of recognizing the value of new contributions to the subject, has spent the force of his attack on mistakes in punctuation¹ and on false references. Nothing could be more gratefully acknowledged by an author than such corrections, but Professor Sanders has laid himself open to the very criticisms that he deals out with such severity; for example, he claims to find certain errors on p. xlvi: the page he has in mind is not xlvi but lxvi!

As Professor Sanders has himself made special studies in Livy, it was not to be expected that he should agree with all the views of the Introduction; but when he takes issue with my positions, he should at least admit that most of these matters are still *sub iudice*, and that on them no man's *ipse dixit* constitutes the last word. As examples only I quote: "If we turn to the Introduction, the case is even worse. We find errors, careless statements, or needless repetitions on almost every page: p. x., Livy was on *familiar terms* with Claudius, afterward emperor; p. xi, his history is a *monument of eulogy* to the Roman people; p. xii, it was *published in decades* (a view long since abandoned);" etc., etc. So Professor Sanders. But the statement as to Claudius is a reasonable inference from the words of Suetonius *Claud.* 41. The "monument of eulogy" is a phrase applied to

¹ "On p. 64 commas are omitted as follows: [here follow eight references]. Five of these are certainly misprints." So Professor Sanders. There is one misprint in these eight passages; in the remaining seven I am in agreement with the edition of Greenough and Peck.

Livy's work by Postgate. As to the next remark, the reader should compare *the reviewer's words* with *what I actually said*: "How his work was published is a matter of uncertainty, but inasmuch as books i, xxi, xxxi all begin with short introductions or prefaces, it has been assumed with some probability that the earlier books at least were published in decades or parts of ten books each."

The notes which he condemns as of no value for freshmen appear in fine print in footnotes and are obviously intended for the advanced student or teacher. Professor Sanders would lead the reader to believe that no distinction has been made between the different kinds of notes.

The fact that Professor Sanders has devoted his attention chiefly to minor matters seems to me to be a tribute to the essential merit of my edition. But there are some who may be swayed by such criticisms, and so this protest may not have been written in vain.

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REPLY

Professor Lease is entitled to what little consolation he can get from his defense. I shall take issue with him on but one point. Errors and misprints, in such numbers as his book shows, are not *minor* matters. I still think that they interfere very seriously with the value of the book. Those noted in my review were only a meager sample. I have collected a few hundred more, which I shall be glad to print, if Professor Lease will secure me the opportunity.

HENRY A. SANDERS